

REMARKS

In response to the official office action of September 22, 2005, applicant has canceled claims 1-3 and has rewritten claim 4 as a new base claim including the limitations of the original base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant disagrees with the rejection of claims 4 & 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103 in view of the stated prior art, because none of the prior art describes the structural limitations of claims 4 & 5. In particular, claim 4 describes a tubular base member having an opening being disposed through a wall thereof, and also having a first longitudinal slot being disposed through the wall and through an upper edge forming the opening of the tubular base member, and further having a second longitudinal slot being disposed through the wall and being diametrically-opposed to the first longitudinal slot. Gill as shown in FIG. 4 describes and shows a linear groove 50 disposed in the side wall which is not the same or similar as a first longitudinal slot being disposed entirely through the wall of the tubular base member. In addition, the linear groove 50 in Gill is not disposed through an upper edge forming the opening of the tubular base member with the opening being disposed through the wall of the tubular base member. Also, Gill does not show nor describe a second longitudinal slot being diametrically opposed to the first longitudinal slot as described in the present invention.

As to claim 5, none of the prior art describes the structural limitations of the cylindrical member which is securely engaged with the elongate fastening member in said tubular base member and having an extension wall extending outwardly from a top of the cylindrical member. Merrell describes a cylindrical member but does not describe nor suggest the extension wall in the present invention.

In addition, applicant has reduced the Abstract of the Disclosure to less than 50 words, and has deleted the words "or the like" to overcome

the examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Applicant has not added any new subject matter to the claims and respectfully request that the examiner takes the foregoing into consideration and that he be granted Letters Patent for his invention.

Respectfully Submitted,
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By: _____

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